United Nations

Report of the Conference on Disarmament

21 January-29 March, 13 May-28 June and 29 July-13 September 2002

General Assembly
Official Records
Fifty-seventh Session
Supplement No. 27 (A/57/27)

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Conference on Disarmament submits to the fifty-seventh session of the United Nations General Assembly its annual report on its 2002 session, together with the pertinent documents and records.

II. ORGANIZATION OF WORK OF THE CONFERENCE

A. 2002 Session of the Conference

2. The Conference was in session from 21 January to 29 March, 13 May to 28 June and 29 July to 13 September 2002. During this period, the Conference held 26 formal plenary meetings, at which Member States as well as non-Member States invited to participate in the discussions outlined their views and recommendations on the various questions before the Conference. The following dignitaries addressed the Conference on Disarmament during its 2002 session: Ms. Anna Lindh, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden (CD/PV.892); Mr. Ioan Mircea Pascu, Minister of National Defence of Romania (CD/PV.896); Mr. William Graham, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Canada (CD/PV.898); Mr. K. Tokaev, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan (CD/PV.899); and Mr. Abdul Sattar, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Pakistan (CD/PV.900).

3. The Conference also held 11 informal meetings on its agenda, programme of work, organization and procedures, as well as on specific items of its agenda and other matters.

4. In accordance with Rule 9 of the Rules of Procedure, the following Member States assumed successively the Presidency of the Conference: Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany and Hungary.

5. The substantive Secretariat of the Conference on Disarmament was composed as follows: Mr. Vladimir Petrovsky, Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (until 28 February 2002); Mr. Sergei Ordzhonikidze, Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (as of 19 March); Mr. Enrique Román-Morey, Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament; and Mr. Jerzy Zaleski, Political Affairs Officer (in charge of the Conference on Disarmament).

B. Participants in the Work of the Conference

6. The representatives of Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, the Democratic People's

Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Senegal, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Venezuela, Viet Nam and Zimbabwe participated as Member States in the work of the Conference.

C. Attendance and Participation of States not Members of the Conference

7. In conformity with Rule 32 of the Rules of Procedure, the States not members of the Conference listed in the following paragraph attended its plenary meetings.

8. The Conference received and considered requests for participation in its work from 37 States not members of the Conference. In accordance with the Rules of Procedure and its decision taken at its 1990 session on its improved and effective functioning (CD/1036), the Conference invited the following non-Member States to participate in its work: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Gabon, Georgia, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, the Holy See, Jordan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Monaco, Oman, the Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Slovenia, Sudan, Thailand and Yemen.

D. Agenda and Programme of Work for the 2002 Session

9. At its 889th plenary meeting on 22 January 2002, the Conference adopted its agenda for the 2002 session in conformity with the Rules of Procedure. The agenda (CD/1662) reads as follows:

> "Taking into account, inter alia, the relevant provisions of the Final Document of the First Special Session of the General Assembly Devoted to Disarmament, and deciding to resume its consultations on the review of its agenda, and without prejudice to their outcome, the Conference adopts the following agenda for its 2002 session:
>
> 1. Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament.
>
> 2. Prevention of nuclear war, including all related matters.
>
> 3. Prevention of an arms race in outer space.
>
> 4. Effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons.

5. New types of weapons of mass destruction and new systems of such weapons; radiological weapons.

6. Comprehensive programme of disarmament.

7. Transparency in armaments.

8. Consideration and adoption of the annual report and any other report, as appropriate, to the General Assembly of the United Nations."

10. In connection with the adoption of the agenda, the President made the following statement: "It is my understanding that if there is a consensus in the Conference to deal with any issues, they could be dealt with within this agenda."

11. During the annual session, successive Presidents of the Conference conducted intensive consultations with a view to reaching consensus on the programme of work. In the course of these consultations, the Presidents put forward some informal proposals related to the programme of work. The Conference did not, however, agree on the programme of work and did not re-establish or establish any mechanism on any of its specific agenda items during the 2002 session.

12. At its 893rd plenary meeting on 14 February 2002, the Conference adopted decision CD/1667, which reads as follows:

> "The Conference on Disarmament, reaffirming its commitment to work intensively towards the approval of a programme of work, using the Amorim Proposal, as contained in document CD/1624, as a basis for further intensified consultations and taking into consideration all relevant proposals:
>
> In accordance with CD/1653 (paragraph 41), decides to appoint Special Coordinators on the Review of its Agenda, the Expansion of its Membership and its Improved and Effective Functioning. These Special Coordinators, in discharging their duties and functions, will take into account all proposals and views, as well as future initiatives. The Conference requests these Special Coordinators to report to it before the conclusion of the 2002 session."

13. At its 896th plenary meeting on 7 March 2002, the Conference appointed Ambassador Eui-Yong Chung of the Republic of Korea as Special Coordinator on Review of the Agenda of the Conference, Ambassador Dimiter Tzantchev of Bulgaria as Special Coordinator on Expansion of the Membership of the Conference, and Ambassador Prasad Kariyawasam of Sri Lanka as Special Coordinator on Improved and Effective Functioning of the Conference.

14. With regard to the programme of work, the Conference had before it the following official document submitted by the then President of the Conference, Ambassador Markku Reimaa of Finland: CD/1670, dated 23 May 2002, entitled "Proposal by the President: Draft Decision".

15. At the 908th plenary meeting on 31 July 2002, Ambassador Mohamed Salah Dembri of Algeria, on behalf of Ambassador Jean Lint of Belgium, Ambassador Camilo Reyes Rodríguez of Colombia, Ambassador Henrik Salander of Sweden, Ambassador Juan Enrique Vega of Chile and on his behalf, outlined a cross-group initiative on a programme of work of the Conference (CD/PV.908). At the 912th plenary meeting, on 29 August 2002, Ambassador Dembri formally presented the proposal to the Conference (CD/PV.912). A wide range of delegations expressed their appreciation for this initiative

16. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations and groups of delegations expressed their views on the issue of a programme of work. These are duly reflected in the plenary records.

E. Expansion of the Membership of the Conference

17. The importance of the expansion of the membership of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings.

18. Requests for membership had been received, since 1982, from the following 22 non-members, in chronological order: Greece, Croatia, Kuwait, Portugal, Slovenia, the Czech Republic, Costa Rica, Denmark, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Cyprus, Lithuania, Ghana, Luxembourg, Uruguay, the Philippines, Azerbaijan, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Armenia, Thailand, Georgia, Jordan and Estonia.

19. In discharging his mandate, the Special Coordinator on Expansion of the Membership of the Conference, Ambassador Dimiter Tzantchev of Bulgaria, held bilateral consultations with a number of members and participating non-members of the Conference, as well as an informal open-ended meeting on 16 May 2002, and presented his report in a statement at the 911th plenary meeting on 22 August 2002 (CD/PV.911).

F. Review of the Agenda of the Conference

20. The importance of the review of the agenda of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings.

21. In discharging his mandate, the Special Coordinator on Review of the Agenda of the Conference, Ambassador Eui-Yong Chung of the Republic of Korea, held bilateral consultations with a number of members and participating non-members of the Conference, as well as an informal open-ended meeting on 6 June 2002, and presented his report in a statement at the 911th plenary meeting on 22 August 2002 (CD/PV.911).

G. Improved and Effective Functioning of the Conference

22. The importance of the improved and effective functioning of the Conference was addressed by delegations in plenary meetings.

23. In discharging his mandate, the Special Coordinator on Improved and Effective Functioning of the Conference, Ambassador Prasad Kariyawasam of Sri Lanka, held bilateral consultations with a number of members and participating non-members of the Conference, as well as two informal open-ended meetings on 23 and 30 May 2002, respectively, and presented his report in a statement at the 911th plenary meeting on 22 August 2002 (CD/PV.911).

H. Communications from Non-Governmental Organizations

24. In accordance with Rule 42 of the Rules of Procedure, a list of all communications from non-governmental organizations and persons was circulated to the Conference (document CD/NGC/36).

III. SUBSTANTIVE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE DURING ITS 2002 SESSION

25. The substantive work of the Conference during its 2002 session was based on its agenda. The list of documents issued by the Conference, as well as the texts of those documents, are included as Appendix I to this report. An index of the verbatim records, by country and subject, listing the statements made by delegations during 2002, and the verbatim records of the meetings of the Conference, are attached as Appendix II to the report.

26. The Conference had before it a letter dated 8 January 2002 from the Secretary-General of the United Nations (CD/1660) transmitting all the resolutions and decisions dealing with or related to disarmament and international security adopted by the General Assembly at its fifty-sixth session in 2001, including those making specific reference to the Conference on Disarmament:

56/22	"Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons" (operative paragraphs 2, 4 and 5)
56/23	"Prevention of an arms race in outer space" (operative paragraphs 5, 6 and 8)
56/24 H	"Regional disarmament" (operative paragraph 1)
56/24 I	"Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels" (operative paragraph 2)

56/24 J "The Conference on Disarmament decision (CD/1547) of 11 August 1998 to establish, under item 1 of its agenda entitled 'Cessation of the nuclear arms race and nuclear disarmament', an ad hoc committee to negotiate, on the basis of the report of the Special Coordinator (CD/1299) and the mandate contained therein, a non-discriminatory, multilateral and internationally and effectively verifiable treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices" (operative paragraphs 1 and 2)

56/24 L "Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes" (operative paragraphs 1, 4 and 5)

56/24 N "A path to the total elimination of nuclear weapons" (operative paragraphs 3(b) and (c))

56/24 Q "Transparency in armaments"(operative paragraph 6)

56/24 R "Nuclear Disarmament" (operative paragraphs 10, 11, 14 and 15)

56/25 B "Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons" (operative paragraphs 1 and 2)

56/26 A "Report of the Disarmament Commission" (operative paragraph 2)

56/26 B "Report of the Conference on Disarmament" (operative paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 7)

27. At the 889th plenary meeting on 22 January 2002, the Deputy Secretary-General of the Conference conveyed to the Conference a message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations at the opening of the 2002 session (CD/PV.889).

28. Mr. Jayantha Dhanapala, Under-Secretary-General for Disarmament Affairs, attended the 895th plenary meeting of the Conference held on 28 February 2002.

A. Cessation of the Nuclear Arms Race and Nuclear Disarmament

29. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on this agenda item, including on nuclear disarmament and on the prohibition of the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. These are duly recorded in the plenary records of the session.

30. The following documents dealing with this item were submitted to the Conference:

(a) CD/1671 (and Add.1), dated 28 May 2002, entitled "South Africa; Working Paper: The Possible Scope and Requirements of the Fissile Material Treaty (FMT)".

(b) CD/1676, dated 19 June 2002, entitled "Letter dated 11 June 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting a summary of the open-ended informal meeting on a treaty banning the production of fissile material for nuclear weapons and other nuclear explosive devices held in Geneva on 7 June 2002".

(c) CD/1683, dated 3 September 2002, entitled "Letter dated 27 June 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Ireland addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the English text of the paper submitted by Egypt on behalf of the New Agenda countries to the First Session of the Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons".

B. Prevention of Nuclear War, including All Related Matters

31. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item, and these are recorded in plenary records, previous annual reports of the Conference (in particular paragraphs 62-71 of the 1992 report to the General Assembly of the United Nations (CD/1173)), related official documents and working papers.

C. Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space

32. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item. These are duly recorded in the plenary records of this session.

33. The following documents dealing with this item were submitted to the Conference:

(a) CD/1679, dated 28 June 2002, entitled "Letter dated 27 June 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of China and the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the Chinese, English and Russian texts of a working paper entitled 'Possible elements for a future international legal agreement on the prevention of the deployment of weapons in outer space, the threat or use of force against outer space objects'".

(b) CD/1680, dated 10 July 2002, entitled "Letter dated 26 June 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of his remarks on outer space during the informal conference on 'Future security in space: commercial, military, and arms control trade-offs' sponsored by the Monterey Institute's Center for Nonproliferation Studies and the University of Southampton's Mountbatten Center on 29 May 2002".

(c) CD/1682, dated 30 August 2002, entitled "Letter dated 28 August 2002 from the Head of Delegation of the People's Republic of China to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the Chinese and English texts of a document entitled 'Draft decision on the establishment of an ad hoc committee on the prevention of an arms race in outer space and its mandate'".

D. Effective International Arrangements to Assure Non-Nuclear-Weapon States Against the Use or Threat of Use of Nuclear Weapons

34. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item. These are duly recorded in the plenary records of this session.

E. New Types of Weapons of Mass Destruction and New Systems of Such Weapons; Radiological Weapons

35. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item, and these are recorded in plenary records, previous annual reports of the Conference (in particular paragraphs 79-82 of the 1992 report of the Conference to the General Assembly of the United Nations (CD/1173)), related official documents and working papers.

36. At the 907th plenary meeting on 31 July 2002, the President proposed to revisit the issue of radiological weapons in the light of the new threats. Consequently open-ended informal consultations were conducted on the basis of a discussion paper prepared by the President (subsequently issued as CD/1681). At the 910th plenary meeting on 15 August 2002, the President suggested that the Conference on Disarmament continue its consideration and to this end the appointment of a Special Coordinator for this issue could be considered.

37. The following document dealing with this item was submitted to the Conference: CD/1681, dated 22 August 2002, entitled "Germany; Discussion Paper: Radiological Weapons".

F. Comprehensive Programme of Disarmament

38. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item, and these are recorded in plenary records, previous annual reports of the Conference (in particular paragraphs 83-89 of the 1992 report to the General Assembly of the United Nations (CD/1173)), related official documents and working papers.

39. During plenary meetings of the Conference, a number of delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the issue of anti-personnel landmines, the detailed descriptions of which are duly recorded in the plenary records of this session.

40. The following document dealing with the issue of anti-personnel landmines was submitted to the Conference: CD/1668, dated 22 March 2002, entitled "Letter dated 20 March 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the press release issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey on 15 March 2002 on indefinite extension of the comprehensive moratorium on the export and transfer of anti-personnel landmines".

G. Transparency in Armaments

41. During plenary meetings of the Conference, delegations reaffirmed or further elaborated their respective positions on the agenda item. These are duly recorded in the plenary records of this session.

H. Consideration of Other Areas Dealing with the Cessation of the Arms Race and Disarmament and Other Relevant Measures

42. During its 2002 session, the Conference also had before it the following documents:

(a) CD/1654, dated 9 October 2001, entitled "Letter dated 5 October 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Mongolia addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia in support of an international coalition against terrorism".

(b) CD/1655, dated 20 December 2001, entitled "Letter dated 29 November 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the Conference on Disarmament and from the Acting Head of Delegation, Deputy Permanent Representative of the United States to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the texts of the joint statements by President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia and President George W. Bush of the United States of America on a new relationship between the United States and Russia and on cooperation against bioterrorism".

(c) CD/1656, dated 31 December 2001, entitled "Letter dated 26 November 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of statements dated 9 and 16 November 2001 by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on Russia's compliance with its obligations under the treaty on conventional armed forces in Europe".

(d) CD/1657, dated 31 December 2001, entitled "Letter dated 14 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of the statement by the official spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation regarding the end of the period of strategic offensive arms reductions under the START treaty".

(e) CD/1658, dated 9 January 2002, entitled "Letter dated 18 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of the statement made by the President of the Russian Federation Mr. Vladimir Putin on 13 December 2001 in connection with the decision of the US Administration to withdraw from the ABM treaty of 1972".

(f) CD/1659, dated 9 January 2002, entitled "Letter dated 27 November 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Peru addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of the political declaration against terrorism as well as the paragraphs on disarmament, arms control and international security from the Lima Declaration 'United for Tomorrow' signed on 24 November 2001 by the Heads of State and Government of the Ibero-American community".

(g) CD/1661, dated 17 January 2002, entitled "Letter dated 14 January 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the United States to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of a statement commemorating the entry into force of the open skies treaty as given on January 9 in Washington by Mr. Richard Boucher, Spokesman of the U.S. Department of State".

(h) CD/1663, dated 1 February 2002, entitled "Letter dated 1 February 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of answer given by the Spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to the Korean Central News Agency regarding the remarks made by US Under Secretary of State Bolton at the Conference on Disarmament on 24 January 2002".

(i) CD/1664, dated 6 February 2002, entitled "Letter dated 4 February 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of a summary of the 'Tokyo follow-up meeting of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in all its aspects' held in Tokyo from 23 to 25 January 2002".

(j) CD/1665, dated 6 February 2002, entitled "Letter dated 31 December 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation and the Permanent Representative of China to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the Russian and Chinese texts of the joint press release on Russian-Chinese interagency consultations on strategic stability (Moscow, 17 December 2001)".

(k) CD/1666, dated 13 February 2002, entitled "Letter dated 12 February 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of the press release of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation issued in connection with the speech of the US Under Secretary of State John R. Bolton at the Conference on Disarmament".

(l) CD/1669, dated 13 May 2002, entitled "Letter dated 6 May 2002 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting an extract of paragraphs related to disarmament and international security from the communiqué of the ministerial meeting of the coordinating bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, held in Durban on 29 April 2002".

(m) CD/1672, dated 28 May 2002, entitled "Letter dated 23 May 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the statement by the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and President of the Councils of State and of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, Mr. Fidel Castro Ruz, in response to statements made by the Under-Secretary of State of the United States of America, Mr. John Bolton, on 6 May 2002".

(n) CD/1673, dated 7 June 2002, entitled "Letter dated 24 May 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the text of President Bush's message to the senate of the United States on 9 May 2002 requesting the advice and consent of the senate to ratification of the U.S.-IAEA additional protocol".

(o) CD/1674, dated 5 June 2002, entitled "Letter dated 31 May 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation and the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the English and Russian texts of the treaty between the United States of America and the Russian Federation on strategic offensive reductions and the joint declaration by President George W. Bush and President Vladimir V. Putin on the new strategic relationship between the United States of America and the Russian Federation signed on 24 May 2002 in Moscow".

(p) CD/1675, dated 17 June 2002, entitled "Letter dated 6 June 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the texts of the Almaty Act and of the CICA Declaration on eliminating terrorism and promoting dialogue among civilizations accepted by the first summit of the conference on interaction and confidence-building measures in Asia, held on 4 June 2002 in Almaty, Kazakhstan".

(q) CD/1677, dated 24 June 2002, entitled "Letter dated 19 June 2002 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the Conference on Disarmament addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference transmitting the statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation on the legal status of the treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States of America on the further reduction and limitation of strategic offensive arms (START II Treaty)".

(r) CD/1678, dated 24 June 2002, entitled "Letter dated 19 June 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Peru addressed to the Secretary-General of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the text of the Lima commitment signed on 17 June 2002 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Defence of Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Venezuela establishing the Andean charter for peace and security and for the limitation and control of external defence spending".

(s) CD/1684, dated 3 September 2002, entitled "Letter dated 16 August 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Ecuador addressed to the President of the Conference on Disarmament transmitting the Declaration on South American Zone of Peace signed on 27 July 2002 by the Presidents of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela

and by the representatives of the Heads of State of Guyana, Suriname and Uruguay at the Second Meeting of Presidents of South America held in Guayaquil, Ecuador".

I. Consideration and Adoption of the Annual Report of the Conference and Any Other Report as Appropriate to the General Assembly of the United Nations

43. The Conference began its 2002 session reaffirming its support for CD/1624 as a basis for further intensified consultations, and taking into consideration all relevant proposals. The session witnessed frequent debates, active plenary discussions, enhanced cooperation and a number of efforts, including an unprecedented cross-group effort to develop a programme of work. On these grounds, with a view to commencing early work on various agenda items during its 2003 session, the Conference requested the current President and the incoming President to conduct appropriate consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, make recommendations, taking into account all existing proposals and views presented and discussions held in the 2002 session.

44. The Conference on Disarmament took note of the reports of the Special Coordinator on Review of the Agenda of the Conference on Disarmament, the Special Coordinator on Expansion of Membership of the Conference on Disarmament, and the Special Coordinator on Improved and Effective Functioning of the Conference on Disarmament. While agreeing that priority should be given to pursue substantive work, the Conference recommended that Special Coordinators on relevant procedural issues be appointed, if deemed necessary, during its 2003 session.

45. The Conference decided that the dates for its 2003 session would be:

First part:	20 January - 28 March 2003
Second part:	12 May - 27 June 2003
Third part:	28 July - 10 September 2003

46. The annual report to the fifty-seventh session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, as adopted by the Conference on 12 September 2002, is transmitted by the President on behalf of the Conference on Disarmament.

András Szabó
Hungary
President of the Conference

02-60184 (E) 260902